

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Sal Chemical

West Virginia Manufacturing Extension Partnership

WVMEP Helps Sal Chemical Recognize and Control Safety Hazards

Client Profile:

SAL Chemical Company Inc. is one of the largest regional chemical distributors in the U.S. An independent privately-owned and managed business since 1965, SAL Chemical employs 22 people at its facility in Weirton, West Virginia.

Situation:

SAL Chemical's Quality and Regulatory Compliance Manager, Jason Mattern, sought an expert who could provide an 'OSHA style' walkthrough at his facility to identify potential industrial hygiene and safety hazards. The company contacted the West Virginia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WVMEP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for help.

Solution:

WVMEP conducted an initial health and safety consultation at Sal Chemical and then used its industrial hygiene and safety background to provide a comprehensive report of findings. The report of findings allowed SAL Chemical to identify and prioritize potential hazards recognized during the walkthrough. The project with VPMEP led to an improved safety and health program due to the elimination of hazards and awareness gained as a result of the project. As a result of VPMEP's assistance, SAL Chemical enhanced their current safety program which led to a safer work environment.

Results:

* Realized \$850,000 in cost savings.

Testimonial:

"SAL Chemical has continually strived for continual improvement regarding all facets of safety; safety for our employees, safety for our environment and safety for our community. The initial health and safety consultation service that WVMEP provided was very effective in providing a sound base line standard where we accurately document our continual improvement progress as we move forward."

Jason Mattern, Quality Manager